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Wednesday, July 8, 2020



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### **LISA MERCER BROKER**

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### Countywide Fire Ban – details on page 3

### **Highlands Cinemas** misses first summer in 40 years

by SUE TIFFIN Times Staff

Highlands Cinemas in Kinmount will remain closed this season, citing multiple factors in not being able to open for the 2020

"Well, it was a long winter, now it looks like it is going to be an even longer summer," said owner Keith Stata on the movie theatre's website. "For 40 years, Highlands Cinemas has opened at the first of May, and closed on Thanksgiving. A run of 5.5 months."

Stata said it takes about 120 hours to close down, clean and board up the popular attraction at the end of a season. To open, meanwhile, costs anywhere from \$15,000 to \$30,000 for maintenance work, inspections, servicing and stock.

"That is what makes this year so troubling," he wrote.

The beloved cinema had its 40-year anniversary last year, celebrating Stata's pas-



#### Cooling off

Minden's Finn Taylor-Bayly, 12, is reflected on the surface of the Gull River on Sunday, July 5. The avid swimmer was with family, cooling in the water after eating a take-out meal for dinner. /DARREN LUM Staff

### Fire chief promoting safety planning after fires

by SUE TIFFIN

Times Staff

Two fires were safely put out last week by see HEALTH page 3 | the Minden Hills Fire Department, but fire chief Nelson Johnson is reminding the local business community to develop a fire safety plan and participate in a lock box program, initiatives part of a fire safety program he said can be promoted over the next year or

"It takes a community to fix the community right, so everybody needs to have this information so they know that they shouldn't wait for us to tell them to do it, they should

see DOMINION page 4

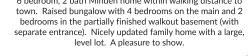


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### Masks required in Haliburton County businesses next week

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Face masks will be mandatory in businesses in Haliburton County as of July 13, according to instructions issued by the local medical officer of health in an end-of-day announcement made July 7 by the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

"Owners and operators of commercial establishments currently operating during Stage 2 will be required to have policies in place to stop people from entering the establishment if they are not wearing a non-medical mask or face covering," reads part of the announcement, titled Required Use of Non-Medical Masks and Face Coverings Within Commercial Establishments, noting the instructions for masking are effective 12:01 a.m. on Monday, July 13 while the provincial emergency orders remain in force or until the instructions are discontinued by the local medical officer of health.

"Although we have seen a decline in the number of COVID-19 cases in our area, we want to be sure we continue to see a decrease as we move towards the reopening of more businesses within the province," says Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, Medical Officer of Health for the HKPR District Health Unit. "We need to do everything we can to avoid the chance of a resurgence in activity that we have seen in some other places."

Commercial establishments that are open to the public and used for the purposes of offering goods or services for sale including retail stores, convenience stores, restaurants, personal services settings, grocery stores and bakeries, gas stations, indoor farmers' markets and areas of mechanics' shops/garages/repair shops which are open to the public are included in the instructions.

"Wearing a mask is about protecting other people, Dr. Noseworthy says, and reduces the likelihood that someone could unknowingly spread the virus to another person," reads the press release.

"Provincially, we have seen a number of asymptomatic cases," said Noseworthy in the release. "This is just another step in doing what we can to protect our family, friends and neighbours in our communities."

The release said the policy of commercial establishments should be "enacted and enforced in 'good faith' and should be used as an opportunity to educate about the use of non-medical masks or face coverings in indoor commercial establishments. Additional education and enforcement will be conducted by health unit staff, as well as local municipal bylaw

and police officers."

Exemptions for mask-wearing within commercial establishments include children under two, those with developmental disabilities who refuse to wear a mask, people who are incapacitated or unable to remove a mask without assistance, or for other religious or medical reasons including respiratory disease, cognitive difficulties or difficulties in hearing or processing information.

Mandatory mask wearing orders are spreading throughout Canadian cities as the COVID-19 pandemic continues, with governments and public health units in Ontario, including Toronto, Sudbury and Durham region, and Quebec issuing orders to residents to wear non-medical face masks on public transit, in businesses and indoor spaces beginning this month, in an attempt to slow the spread of the disease, which globally has infected 11,711,426 people, killing 540,572 according to the Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Centre at press time

Wearing a mask where physical distancing was challenging in Haliburton County had been recommended by the HKPR Health Unit but was still considered voluntary until the announcement, which was made hours after a similar decision by the Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit.

As of July 7, one person in Haliburton County has an active confirmed case of COVID-19, with nine local cases of the virus resolved since March. Positive cases of residents who are tested in Haliburton County but have a primary residence elsewhere are included in data from their home health unit. In the HKPR region, which includes Haliburton County as well as Northumberland and City of Kawartha Lakes, 202 cases have been confirmed as of press time, with 177 of those cases resolved.

At a June 18 HKPR District Health Unit board of health meeting, Mayor of Cobourg John Henderson, asked Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, the health unit's medical officer of health, if there would be at some point a determination from the board to promote mask wearing as the region was moving into the province's Phase 2 of reopening. He pointed toward the City of Guelph, which had the week before issued an order under the Health Protection and Promotion Act requiring those going into commercial establishments to wear a face covering, and said he was receiving many questions on that particular concern.

"With regard to the wearing of masks, we've been consistent with messaging policy direction from the province and also from the federal government, in that the use of masks is currently recommended for the public when they're out and they're not able to maintain that six feet of distance from

other people, or the two metres from other people," said Noseworthy at that time. "The public health messaging that we're following to date is recommending that people stay home if they're ill, that they wash their hands frequently and thoroughly, that they practice physical distancing, so staying six feet away from other people when they're out and about, and if they can't maintain that physical distance, that they wear a cloth mask or cloth face covering."

In an email to the *Times* last week, Noseworthy said, "These are the measures that will help keep us all healthy – more so than knowing that someone in your town tested positive."

She said the public health unit was "monitoring the situation." Factors that need to be taken into account prior to issuing a Section 22 Class Order – making masks mandatory when visiting businesses – include whether the order is a reasonable approach to the situation, if the health unit staff can enforce the order, whether all people can tolerate wearing a mask, and whether people can afford to purchase masks, said Noseworthy last week. She said she was "maintaining alliance with the provincial policy, with regard to the use of masks," at that point of time in the June 18 meeting.

To date, the province has pushed back on a blanket order mandating masks, instead noting that individual health units can make that call. The Ontario.ca website recommends a face covering, in particular a "non-medical mask such as a cloth mask" when physical distancing and keeping two metres apart is not possible, for example on public transit, in smaller grocery stores or pharmacies and when you are receiving essential services. It also notes that "face coverings will not protect you from getting COVID-19," and recommends instead minimizing errands to a single trip where possible, avoiding close contact with others and keeping at least two metres from others outside your household, washing hands regularly or using alcohol-based hand sanitizer and practicing proper cough and sneeze etiquette. Children under the age of two, anyone who has trouble breathing and anyone unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance should not wear a mask.

Noseworthy noted in the board of health meeting that as with other policies and decisions made since COVID-19 first started spreading, "information has been evolving and policies have been changing."

For more information about the instructions requiring non-medical mask use or face coverings, visit the health unit's website at www.hkpr.on.ca or call toll-free at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 5020.

### Volunteers donate more than 1,200 masks

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Busy hands and compassionate community members are helping to bring more than 1,200 homemade fabric masks to faces through SIRCH Community Services' Sewing for a Great Cause initiative.

"The sewers in this community are amazing," said Gena Robertson, SIRCH executive director.

The masks were collected to help as a viable option if supplies became exhausted at local health-care agencies, and for the public, including cashiers, delivery people, tenants in social housing, people in food services, and caregivers.

Masks were assessed by Sue Robinson, former nurse practitioner, for wearability, who divided masks into those appropriate for front line health-care workers, and masks for the public. "A few had broken elastics or rips but to date we have given out 1,090 masks to 12 different organizations, and a number of community members," said Robertson, who said there were more in stock to be sanitized and redistributed. Robertson thanked Lisa Tompkins and Haliburton Highlands Health Services for their help in sanitizing the masks, which were individually packaged before being distributed.

Kayla Bird at Extendicare said although staff cannot wear homemade masks in the long-term care facility, as only medical-grade masks are approved within the residence, staff are able to make use of about 70 masks donated through the SIRCH efforts outside of the facility, for example, while shopping.

Local hospitals also received masks from the public.

"Through the generosity of many members of the commu-



nity, the HHHS Foundation has received over 800 masks for HHHS, through direct donations, and our partnership with SIRCH in the 'Sewing for a Great Cause' initiative, taking a community approach to receiving and distributing hand-sewn cloth masks," said Stephanie MacLaren, VP community programs, HHHS. "The masks have been used at Haliburton and Minden emergency department, provided to patients who pass the COVID-19 screening tool."

"It's been such a great community effort," said Robertson. As the paper went to press on July 7, the Haliburton, in for SIRCH
Community
Services' Sewing
for a Great Cause
initiative. More than
1,200 homemade
masks were sewn. /
Photo supplied

**Donations flooded** 

Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit had made mandatory the use of masks inside businesses beginning July 13. This month, numerous communities throughout Ontario have been announcing that masks must be worn when inside public spaces.

For more information on the Sewing for a Great Cause initiative, visit https://www.sirch.on.ca/2020/04/can-you-sew-sewing-for-a-great-cause/

### Health precautions limit speed of theatre reopening

from page 1

sion for the place. Over the years, he built it from a 50-seat theatre, with what he said was an eight-by-10-foot lobby, to an 18,500 square foot structure with five screens, 550 seats and a 4,000 square foot museum filled with movie, toy and cultural nostalgia from as early as the 1800s. Attendance came from residents of surrounding areas - the theatre is the closest to many in Haliburton County after the closing of the Molou theatre in Haliburton and Beaver theatre in Minden in previous years – as well as seasonal residents who made it a traditional stop as part of their summer vacation.

"I didn't build a theatre in Kinmount to get rich, that is for certain," Stata wrote. "I built it because I enjoyed it, the movies, the customers, the staff, the bear, all of it."

Multiple factors make it impossible for Stata to open the cinema this year.

"For the theatre to work, we need schools, camps, blockbuster movies, good staff, and rain to bring in the customers," he said. "This year there are no schools, or camps, our staff for the most part have found employment elsewhere, all the major movies are gone, there is also the concern many people will not feel comfortable in an indoor theatre at this time. The critical weeks of summer are now approaching and social distancing which is absolutely necessary, will reduce our seating to around 30 per cent. That combined with the extra costs associated with COVID-19 would make it impossible to make money this year or justify the cost of trying to open.

Like many businesses we simply weren't de- mind. I continue to provide updates to resisigned for COVID-19, and at 73, I don't want it either.'

Stata said he did contact local MPP Laurie Scott and a City of Kawartha Lakes-based councillor regarding when the business might be able to open, or help for it through the closure, but said he did not hear back about those concerns.

"Since the onset of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the health and safety of Ontario's residents has been the number one consideration in all the decisions being made by the province as well as the federal and municipal governments," said Scott in response to an inquiry from the Times. "Canadian provinces, including Ontario, have taken a phased in approach to reopening in an effort to both keep our residents safe, and to avoid the experience of some other jurisdictions where a rush to reopening has resulted in additional virus spread forcing a slowdown or reversal of their reopening."

"With regards to the inquiry from Highland Theatres, in May (just after the Victoria Day long weekend) we received his question regarding the anticipated reopening date for theatres in Ontario," Scott told the Times. "On May 19, we advised Highland Theatres that a date for the safe reopening of theatres had not yet been identified. Unfortunately, a move to the next phase of reopening has yet to be determined. As with all phases of the reopening, these decisions are made in consultation with the medical officers of health of the municipalities and the province, with the health and safety of our residents top of

dents via all forms of communication, and look forward to providing an update regarding additional openings in the days and weeks ahead."

Meanwhile, the cat rescue that operates alongside the theatre and welcomes guests as they arrive to the box office is still in operation, with 42 cats being homed by Stata

in an intricate sanctuary. A donations box is located at the gate for those who might be able to help Stata care for the cats, who are often supported in part by donations from moviegoers.

"Hopefully we can again see you at the movies in the spring of 2021, in the meantime, stay safe, stay healthy," said Stata.

### Fire ban issued for Haliburton County

by JENN WATT

Following weeks of dry conditions, the fire chiefs of Haliburton County decided on July 7 to introduce a countywide fire ban.

No burning is permitted at any time of day, including fires for warmth or food. Fireworks are also banned.

Minden Hills fire chief Nelson Johnson said the decision is made taking multiple factors into account including precipitation, average temperatures, relative humidity, and moisture content of the fuel. Information provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry using weather testing sites from around the area determine the fire hazard rating, which can be anywhere from low to extreme.

"There's all kinds of things that fold in together to make this determination if it's extreme or not," Johnson told the Times.

Making the decision to ban fires takes into account the environmental conditions as well as the staffing resources of the fire

Although you can't have a fire for cooking or warmth, propane (not charcoal) barbecues are permitted, as are camp stoves.

Those who ignore the fire ban may be subject to fines, and Johnson points out that if the fire department has to be called in due to an illegal fire, "The person may be responsible for all costs associated. So, if we have to put the fire out, if it damages someone else's house, they may be responsible for all of that."

Questions about the ban should be directed to your local fire department.

# IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

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www.mindenhills.ca

### **EXTREME HEAT/HEAT WARNINGS**

Impacts to Health: Extreme temperatures and high humidity puts everyone at risk however, the risks are greater for young children, older adults, and people with chronic illnesses and/or on certain types of medications, people working or exercising outdoors and/or in places where heat is emitted through industrial processes and those without proper shelter.

Adverse health effects can occur as a direct result of exposure to too much heat such as heat cramps, heat edema, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

#### Signs/Symptoms

Heat Cramps; Painful muscular cramps (usually in the legs or abdomen)

Heat Edema; Swelling of hands, feet and ankles

Heat Exhaustion; Heavy sweating, weakness, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, fainting Heat Stroke; Headache, dizziness, confusion or other altered mental state and fainting. Skin may be hot and dry, or the individual may be sweating due to high body temperature

This is a medical emergency that can prove fatal The following protective measures and best practices will aid you in reducing the risk:

- · If you must go outside, find or bring shade to avoid being exposed to the sun, stay hydrated, dress in cool/ loose-fitting clothing, and take several breaks.
  - Check on older family, friends and neighbors and be vigilant for heat related illnesses.
- · Bring pets inside and avoid leaving them in parked vehicles. Move livestock to sheltered areas with plenty of

Extreme heat can alter road surface conditions. Heat can result in the expansion or buckling of roads, which can cause accidents or delays.

Utilities are also susceptible to damage as the demand for electricity and water increases during periods with high temperatures and may exceed the supply.

Rolling blackouts and restrictions on water usage may be implemented.

Everyone has the responsibility to be prepared:

- Carry an emergency car kit and a mobile phone
- Prepare a 72-hour emergency kit in the event that there is a power outage or other impacts to critical infrastructure
- · Continue to monitor local forecasts for public weather alerts and exercise appropriate caution if you must go outside and/or travel.

This weather also has an effect on outdoor fire hazards, monitor postings for fire bans or restrictions at www.mindenhills.ca

### **IMPORTANT PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION**

The 2020 property tax installments are due on:

• May 29th, • June 26th, • July 24th, • September 18th

HOWEVER late payment charges shall be suspended on all tax installments that are unpaid by the due dates. Interest at the rate of one and one quarter percent (1 1/4%) per month shall be charged on the first (1st) day following December 4, 2020, on all due and unpaid 2020 taxes. Interest at the rate of one and one quarter percent (1 1/4%) per month will continue to be levied against taxes owing for previous years (2019 and older)

Preauthorized payment plan withdrawals will continue as originally scheduled. Ten (10) month plan and Arrears plan payments will be deducted on the last business day of each month. The installment plan payments will be withdrawn on July 24th and September 18th, 2020. Post-dated cheques on file will also be deposited on the dates as indicated on the cheques.

If you have any questions regarding your preauthorized payment plan or post-dated cheques, please call (705) 286-1260, extension 201. We encourage account holders to utilize the payment methods available, and to submit payments as soon as reasonably possible.

Payment Methods: Cash and debit payments are currently suspended. On-line or telephone banking

· Payment at financial institutions. · Cheque-by mail or deposit in the drop box.

The secure (locked) drop box is labelled and located on the north wall of the Administration building facing Pritchard Lane and the Municipal parking lot. It is accessed from the wheelchair entrance and is at the top of the first ramp.

Absolutely no cash is to be deposited in the drop box

#### COUNCIL MEETINGS

As a result of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak, all Council and Committee of the Whole meetings will be conducted virtually via web conference; and Closed Session meetings via teleconference, until further notice.

Meetings are held virtually, starting at 9:00 AM in the Minden Council office 7 Milne Street. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

July 30 - Regular Council Meeting

August 27 - Regular Council Meeting

Please note Council Meetings are reduced to one meeting a month in July, August and December.

During this unprecedented time, the health and safety of our community is of paramount importance. Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www. mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

As more businesses and services reopen, and with social gatherings increased to 10 people, we all must continue our efforts to protect each other.



**Practice physical** distancing, stay two metres apart.



Wear a face covering when physical distancing is a challenge.



Continue to wash hands frequently.



**Get tested** if you are worried you may have COVID-19, or have been exposed to the virus.

Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.

Ontario 😚



Hotel on Bobcaygeon Road on July 1. The next night, the fire department was called to a fire at Scotch Line landfill. / Photo submitted by Shawn

### **Dominion Hotel owner** grateful to fire dept. for quick response

from page 1

start working on it," he said.

On July 1, eight volunteers with the Minden Hills Fire Department responded to the smell and presence of smoke inside the Dominion Hotel, on Bobcaygeon Road, just after 7 p.m.

Upon entering the building, which had been evacuated of tenants and staff, firefighters were aware of what smelled like electrical smoke, but couldn't find the source of the fire until after a room-byroom search of the second floor of the building, where smoke was reported.

"When we got there, we couldn't find the flames, so it made it hard to search for, but it was an electrical fire that was caused by an overloaded circuit probably," Johnson told the Times. "It had melted a whole bunch of wires and it was still active when we got there, it was just very hard to find because it was up in the ceiling and in the wall space. It was difficult to locate but we found it and looked after that one.'

Johnson said the building was equipped with fire alarms, which were activated, and noted it was important the fire was taken care of quickly to protect the historic landmark, and other structures it is connected to.

"There would have been a lot of damage," he said.

Shawn Chamberlin, Dominion Hotel owner, was appreciative the situation was handled quickly.

"We are glad it wasn't any more serious and that no one was hurt," he said. "And we are extremely grateful for all the volunteers in the Minden Fire Department who did a great job responding to and dealing with the situation. And especially for putting our hearts, and minds to rest. Thanks to all who came by to comfort us, to sit with us on the Country Magic steps while we waited the outcome and those who called or texted us to make sure we were OK. This is a great community to live, work and play."

On July 2, the Minden Hills Fire Department was called to Scotch Line landfill in Minden for a refuse fire, just before 7 p.m.

A key the fire department had to the gate did not work, and so a fence was taken down for the first responders to access the site, where a bin of construction materials was on fire.

"Once they got inside, we set up our fire truck and we pulled out a portable monitor to quickly attack the fire," said Johnson. "That fire, I estimate the size would be about 3,000 square feet, and it wasn't all burning but it was spreading pretty fast and pretty hot when we first arrived there."

The portable monitor, or master stream device, flows up to 500 gallons of water per minute, and only requires one person

"It keeps our distance," said Johnson. "It shoots almost double the distance as what a hand line does, so it allows us to knock down big fires, fast."

Johnson said the department, with 11 people attending, also established three hand lines, used their water tender as well as a pumper to shuttle water back and forth to the site, and also called for assistance from Dysart et al to bring another water truck in. An excavator operator also attended.

"That's mainly due to the situation of a pile of wood, and all kinds of different kinds of wood and construction materials and stuff, it can leave spaces, it covers everything," said Johnson. "The excavator was a big help because it moves the pile so that we can get our water stream underneath all those concealed spaces ... He did a wonderful job for us."

The fire department also applied foam to the fire, wetting the wood so that it couldn't reignite.

Johnson said he couldn't give a determination of the cause of the fire, but said it was likely a chemical reaction, possibly creating a spontaneous combustion. He said the fire started down low inside the pile, and that it is important that people remember to sort and separate materials properly. "It's one of those things where, it's very important not to throw stuff, and separate and sort properly, and not to throw other

### Lock boxes would provide firefighters with quick building access

#### from page 4

things into those types of bins," he said. "It's not just contractors, someone might come along and think, hey, this is a great opportunity to use that bin, right, and throw something in there that the contractor doesn't even know [about]."

"Construction and demolition can sometimes do that especially with this very dry/ hot weather," said Travis Wilson, director of public works. "Typically what happens is somehow an oily rag finds its way into somebody's load of C&D. They tip it at the landfill into another large pile of C&D. It is near impossible to spot one oily rag in hundreds of cubic meters of C&D. With the rag buried in the pile they can spontaneously combust, which can go on for days or weeks. Once it has burnt off enough product for ample amounts of oxygen, it will then turn into a fire."

Wilson said approximately 345m3 of C&D waste was burnt.

"To give you a further idea of how long it had likely been smouldering within the pile, the landfill was closed on July 1 and we only had three visitors who hauled in C&D on July 2. So at least two full days.'

He thanked Johnson and his team for "a great job" getting on site and extinguishing the fire.

The fire department worked at the site until about 9:30 p.m.

Johnson said a fire safety plan identifies where pole stations are, where exits are, and where fire alarms and fire extinguishers are

in a building so firefighters can quickly assess a situation when arriving at the scene of a fire or potential fire.

"A fire safety plan is actually required under the fire code for any property that has 30 or more people in it, and any property that has a fire alarm or sprinkler system," said Johnson. "It's a safety document that has the layout of the place, all the owners' names, the telephone numbers, who they would call for any of their repairs and stuff like that, so that we can basically get a floor plan, and we know where the breaker plans are, we don't have to go searching for that stuff."

"It's always a benefit but just about all businesses here in town are required to have them," said Johnson.

He also noted that public buildings and businesses required to have fire alarms, or with more than 60 people in them, are also required to have a lock box for the fire department to be able to quickly access keys and thus save time in entering the building and entering locked rooms inside.

"There's also places, like the hospital, they're not required to have a lock box because there's always someone there," he said. "There's a lot of little nuances and rules. But we always go to places, even the hospital, and say, let's get a lock box because that stops us from having to wait or find someone."

Lock boxes can be ordered through the fire department for a fee of about \$60, and then installed on the outside of the building near the front entrance. The fire department locks keys to the building inside the box and then keeps the lock box key, checking on the lock



Minden Hills Fire Department responded to a fire at the Scotch Line landfill on July 2. /Submitted photo

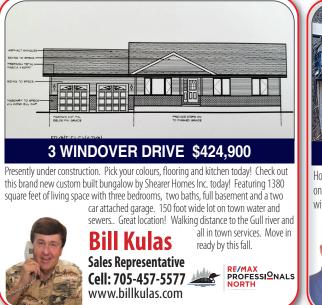
box and keys inside on an annual basis to ensure they're in working order. This saves, Johnson said, "a lot of time."

The fires made for a busy start to July, which has been hot with little rain, resulting in a county-wide fire ban declared just a few days later on July 7.

"The volunteers here did a wonderful job,

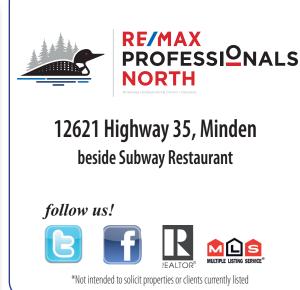
they've shown their commitment here for the last couple of days and worked through this heat," said Johnson. "It was very stifling. That's one other thing, just in case, people may say I didn't see the proper PPE and stuff like that, our guys wore the proper PPE until they determined it was safe, but it was better to go without it. It was very hot out there."













### **INOTHER**WORDS

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### Decision time

**CHAD INGRAM** 

Reporter

INDEN HILLS councillors continue to discuss which "value-added items" will be included in the township's arena project, and, with the project looking like it will be wrapped up in a month or so, it's time for council to make that decision and put this thing to bed.

As has been reported multiple times in this publication, "valueadded items," are those that were not included in the project's base

budget. They range in scope from paving a remaining portion of the parking lot to office and lobby furniture to an LED messaging centre. A grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation will pay for \$130,000 worth of the items, leaving a balance of approximately

\$300,000 for the remaining items, although the township's treasurer/CAO has stressed a number of times those values are estimates, and not based on quotes.

For the township to purchase and install all of the valueadded items – they could also be called cost-added items - would certainly push the price tag for \$12.75-million project above the \$13 million threshold. The township has also put out a call to the community for donations of items or labour, which has drawn the ire of some residents, who've pointed out they'll already be paying for the project for decades on their tax bills. The bulk of the project's cost is being paid for through a loan.

Council has discussed the issue

of the value-added items for hours and hours during the past several months. As the township's treasurer/CAO mentioned at council's last meeting, it's now getting to the point where staff will not likely have time to make all the procurements in order to have everything in the facility when it is complete. Of course, with the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, it's unlikely the facility will be able to be used for much of anything once

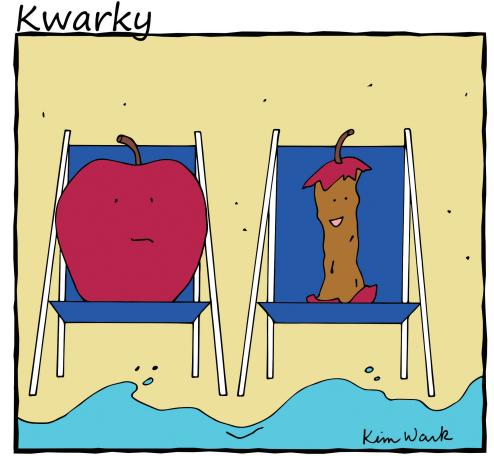
it is complete, at least at first.

Still, it's time for council to just decide, once and for all, which items the township is going to purchase, buy them, finish the project, and carry on. This will entail the weighing of priorities. As Councillor Bob

Carter said at council's last meeting, "I'd rather have a canteen than a paved parking lot," and obviously each of the seven members of council will have their own interpretation of which items are the most crucial.

With nearly 20 items on that list, council should go through it one item at a time and take a majority vote on each one. If the item receives majority support – four votes – it stays, if not, it is not acquired at this time. The township accrued a whopping surplus of some \$900,000 in 2019. A portion of that surplus should be used to pay for whatever items make the cut.

There's been tons of time. There's been tons of talk. Finish the project, and carry on.



"I tan easily."

### The silent dog

HEN MANKIND started developing dog breeds it was primarily for a purpose. Dogs were bred to retrieve, chase, trail, flush, guide, point, tree, herd or protect. As far as I know, at no point was a dog ever bred to be library friendly. My new pup, who we affectionately call "El Yap-o" would be summarily executed by librarians in less liberal countries.

I happen to think that not breeding a silent dog ranks high among mankind's greatest mistakes – or at least that's what I thought at 4:55 a.m. this morning.

Admittedly, the Librarian breed of dog would have limited uses. But, if you bred them with, say, a golden retriever or lab, you'd have a dog that would retrieve your book from the shelf or remind you that you are about to be fined if you don't return it soon. A good one would commit the Dewey Decimal System to memory and not hog the computers.

Certainly, the purebreds of this type would probably need reading glasses after a few years, but every breed has its faults. And yes, if you didn't train it correctly, it might also gravitate towards trashy romance novels or books ghost-written for egomaniacs like Trump. Then again, if you did train it correctly, it might eat them. So, there's a selling point.

Regardless, we missed the opportunity. Sure, it is fun to hear a puppy bark incessantly at 4:55 a.m. because the sun is almost up and it's getting a little impatient to greet the day. But I would also argue that the elbow to the ribs you get from your partner in bed at that time probably offsets all those benefits.

That's why if any breeder of dogs is lis-

tening, I'm asking you to consider trying to breed for silence or at least for sleeping in. I'm not a geneticist but I'm guessing you could probably do the latter by somehow acquiring the DNA of a teenager or that of the partner of a person whose dog wakes up at 4:55 a.m.

It would even be fun naming these breeds. For instance, I'd love to be one of the first to own a Mississippi Snorer, English Late-riser or a Canadian Hushpuppy. Or even a Great Monkdog – a breed that I am envisioning takes a vow of silence until it sees a heathen

cat.

Don't get me wrong; I am not trying to silence the joyful bark of a puppy at 4:55 a.m. I am pro-freedom of speech – just ask my pup. I just wish my pup would take an additional hour or two to collect its thoughts before dispensing them to the world. That would be nice.

Having said that, I'd pay top dollar for a English Silent Spaniel or a Labrador Serener. Just saying.

There are probably many dog trainers out there who would tell me that I should just teach my dog to be quiet at 4:55 a.m. by continually ignoring it. Believe me, I have tried – but a man can only take so many elbows to the ribs.

Instead, I get up and greet my pup with a few hugs and then feed it and take it for a walk. Now, before you go on and say that all this is encouraging this behaviour, let me just say I am trying to build some good will between us. You see, she's got this fantastic dog bed, and if this continues, I might need a new place to sleep.

Plus, if I do ignore her, she might have an accident, go back to sleep and then blame the other dog later. And I'm just not a fan of letting sleeping dogs lie.



STEVE GALEA

Beyond 35

### **INOTHER**WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

### The other dangerous epidemics

OOK DEEP inside the pandemic and you'll see other sicknesses. Not simply sicknesses, but full-blown epidemics. An epidemic of selfishness, plus an epidemic of misinformation.

Both are making it more difficult to defeat the COVID-19 pandemic that has infected millions and killed hundreds of thousands.

Despite the rising tolls, people are having a hard time accepting – or are refusing to accept – restrictions and procedures that take away some of their pleasurable pastimes and cause inconveniences.

There's much whining about what we can't do. Can't have parties. Can't go to

JIM POLING SR. From Shaman's Rock

the bars to have fun with friends. Can't have those fabulous beach parties. Can't go to a baseball game. Can't go to the movies.

If all the energy going into what we can't do was directed to what we can do, it might help us to return to some semblance of normal.

Those who won't wear a face covering can't seem to understand that wearing a mask helps to protect other people and creates confidence and trust.

What would you prefer: to walk into a store in which no one is wearing a face covering, or into a store where everyone has their mouth and nose covered? I'll take the latter choice, and I'll bet many others would as well.

Wearing a mask provides some protection, and creates the confidence that shoppers need to spend time in stores. More people less fearful about entering a store, means more spending and help for a devastated economy.

Some say wearing a mask infringes on their personal freedoms. Crises sometimes require that personal freedoms give way for the common good.

Yes, wearing face coverings and physical distancing is inconvenient. The medical experts, however, say that without a vaccine and effective medications those two things are the best defences against spreading COVID-19.

Too many of us are focused on the individual inconveniences. That's selfishness, when this cruel pandemic demands thinking in terms of community, not individuals.

Selfishness is a harsh term and perhaps not totally fair in a time of crisis. Selfishness and self-preservation are close relatives and when a person senses danger, self-preservation can turn quickly into selfishness.

Some of what appears to be selfishness actually is ignorance by people who have underestimated the seriousness of the virus, or imagine that anything they might do could never exacerbate it.

These are people who have not absorbed what is happening in hospitals. If they viewed the intensive care unit patients coughing up foamy blood, or being zippered up in body bags, they might accept that not wearing a mask when appropriate or attending crowded gatherings can spread the disease.

Complicating all this is an epidemic of misinformation. Antonio Guterres, the United Nations secretary-general has said the world is fighting a "growing surge of misinformation."

"Harmful health advice and snake-oil solutions are proliferating," he has said. "Wild conspiracy theories are infecting the internet."

This bad information often spreads faster than truthful, fact-based information. It causes confusion and drives the gullible and the poorly-informed to do foolish things. Like the person who put \$50 bills in a microwave to sterilize them. Or, the apartment dweller who covered the elevator buttons with plastic wrap to prevent spread of the virus.

I hate to keep harping about the SARS experience of almost 20 years ago, but it gave us important advice on getting through a pandemic – communicate clear and truthful information and keep politics out of conversations and decisions.

Following that advice builds public trust, which eases fears and helps people accept individual restrictions and inconveniences.

Politics introduced into a pandemic is as dangerous as the virus itself. That is obvious in the United States, now collapsing under the wild advance of COVID-19.

The Ontario commission investigating SARS did not find evidence of political interference back then, but noted that many people suspected there was.

"The mere perception of political interference, whether true or not, will sap public confidence and diminish public cooperation," the Commission said in its

The tools for fighting COVID-19 are clear as a cloudless sky:

Wear a mask, follow physical distancing, don't listen to political nonsense, ignore social media nonsense and other sources of misinformation.

Restrictions and inconveniences? In the lingo of the younger folks: just suck it up.

### Health unit offices open again

by JENN WATT Editor

On Monday, July 6, offices of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit reopened to the public following precautionary pandemic-related closures.

New measures have been introduced to protect the health of workers and members of the public including screening visitors, limiting the number of people in the offices, physical distancing, masks, Plexiglas partitions at reception, and increased cleaning

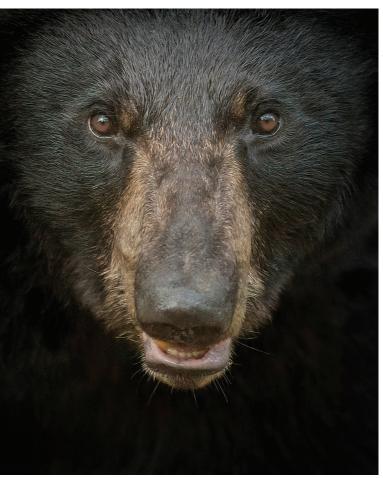
Well water drop-off and pickup will con-

tinue to be offered through an outside distribution area and staff will not check paperwork for samples.

Additionally, the health unit asks that those picking up harm reduction supplies book an appointment.

"Like other businesses, we are open, but it's not business as usual," said medical officer of health Dr. Lynn Noseworthy. "For everyone's health and safety, we are continuing to monitor our practices and work to limit the physical contact between residents and our staff."

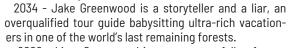
Offices in Haliburton, Lindsay and Port Hope are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Look into my eyes: Tammy Nash took this stunning photo of a black bear on her property in Algonquin Highlands.

### Book of the Month - July

Greenwood by Michael Christie



2008 - Liam Greenwood is a carpenter, fallen from a ladder and sprawled on his broken back, calling out from the concrete floor of an empty mansion.

1974 - Willow Greenwood is out of jail, free after being locked up for one of her endless series of environmen tal protests: attempts at atonement for the sins of her timber-lord father.

1934 - Everett Greenwood is alone, as usual, in his maple syrup camp squat when he hears the cries of an abandoned infant.

And throughout, there are trees: thrumming beneath Christie's effortless sentences and working as a guiding metaphor for withering, weathering, and survival. Greenwood is a shining, intricate clockwork of a novel

about the hard, hopeful, impossible task of growing toward the light. An Evergreen nominee, it's available from Haliburton County Public Library.

MICHAEL CHRISTIE

by DARREN LUM

Times Staff

While the world has stayed apart to stay together during the ongoing pandemic some residents have been left isolated in Haliburton County.

Some may not get to see or hear from a grandchild for months. Others may struggle with their mental health without having a social outlet outside their home. Stress may build as members of the family compete to use the same piece of technology to do their school assignments or tasks for work.

To help these community residents in need of connectivity, the people of SIRCH Community Services, Rotaract Haliburton Highlands, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Kawartha Lakes – Haliburton came up with the eight-week program, Caring Connection.

As of July 5, they are accepting used and operational mobile phones, tablets, laptop and desktop computers in the hopes of distributing them to residents in need.

"Volunteers will clear the personal data off of each device, update the software, and upload relevant applications. Repurposed devices will then be distributed to local community members that have an urgent need for a communicative device," a press release reads. "A volunteer Rotaractor – who has been trained by Big Brothers and Big Sisters – will be paired up with each person receiving a device to ensure that they know how to use their device and can get as much value as possible out of it. Children will have the opportunity to request continued mentorship with Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Kawartha Lakes – Haliburton."

The goal for Caring Connection is to collect 500 devices by mid-August when the collection drive ends.

An evaluation of the project will be conducted to assess the impact.

The idea for this initiative came out of the virtual meetings held by the Service Providers' Network during the initial onset of COVID-19, which worked on coordinating services and identifying gaps in society. One of the gaps was ensuring there is connectivity for individuals and families, who were isolated and struggling. After the strong showing of support from the community through SIRCH's Rally for Rhubarb, SIRCH executive director Gena Robertson was prompted by a request of possible project ideas for Rotaractors by Christine Carr, director of service projects for Rotaract Haliburton Highlands to tackle connectivity issues during the pandemic.

ighlands to tackle connectivity issues during the pandemic. Since SIRCH Repair Cafes were suspended because of

COVID-19, some of the funds for that effort were reallocated to the co-ordination of this initiative.

"We knew that we wouldn't be able to run any Repair Cafes in the short term, so requested to have some of that grant funding reallocated to help with this project. We hired Rebecca Anderson who was both a Repair Cafe volunteer, and was a founder of Rotaract in Haliburton. Literally it was like everything fell into place. I know people will dig out their good used phones and computers to give to someone in need – we have an extremely generous community," said Robertson in a prepared statement.

Anyone interested in donating can call SIRCH 705-457-1742 to arrange a drop off or pick up.



Donations of operational electronic devices, including mobile phones, tablets, laptops or desktop computers are needed for the initiative Caring Connection, which will bring unused or no longer wanted devices to residents in need in the community. /DARREN LUM Staff

# Mental health assoc. looking for board members

The Canadian Mental Health Association, Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge is asking for applications from potential board members, to join the board on Sept. 23.

The organization provides mental health services to clients in Peterborough County, City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton County and Northumberland County. Meetings are held throughout the year on the third Wednesday evening of each month at locations across the region, including Peterborough, Lindsay, Cobourg and Minden. Travel expenses are covered.

Board members should live within the catchment area and have an understanding of both the community and its mental health needs. Commitment to regular attendance of the meetings as well as committee meetings and some events is expected. The monthly time commitment is between eight and 14 hours.

"We are looking for applicants with experience and/or knowledge across a variety of areas including the mental health system, Indigenous mental health services, finance, law, fund development, board governance, stewardship, human resources, healthcare and not-for-profit organizations. Previous board experience would be an asset," a press release states.

A cover letter and resume outlining previous board and/ or volunteer experience and areas of specialization should be sent by July 24 to: Canadian Mental Health Association Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge, Attention: Karen Wolff, Executive Administrative Assistant, 415 Water Street, Peterborough, Ontario K9H 3L9, kwolff@cmhahkpr.ca, Fax: 705-748-4078.

For more information, please contact Karen Wolff at 705-868-4382.



We are looking for applicants with experience and/or knowledge across a variety of areas.

— CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION, HALIBURTON, KAWARTHA, PINE RIDGE







### MH accepts exact change at landfill, plans for digital payments

by SUE TIFFIN Times Staff

An announcement made July 2 was one that many Minden Hills residents were waiting to hear: waste site operations at Scotch Line landfill and Ingoldsby transfer station would resume the next day.

Services had been reduced at the sites since March in an effort to limit the amount of interaction landfill staff have with the public and cash handling during the pandemic lockdown. Residents were asked to only bring no more than three bags of household waste and recycling to the landfill, which was not accepting materials including tires and electronics and construction and demolition material – except from account holders.

As of July 3, at Scotch Line landfill, though the Diabetes Canada drop-off box and reuse centre will remain closed, all other waste types will be accepted, and tipping fees that apply must be paid in exact change. At the Ingoldsby transfer station, acceptance of brush was to resume. There, too, tipping fees that apply must be paid in exact change. "Waste sites will be accepting only exact change for tipping fee payment," reads the July 2 press release. "Please come prepared with a variety of bills and coins in anticipation of not receiving change. While this is an unusual approach, the sites are not equipped with hand washing facilities and are, by nature, less sanitary than many other facilities that receive cash. This approach will reduce the potential for accidental spreading of disease." Contactless payment options - using credit card or debit - will be available at the sites in the coming weeks.

Council discussed and made the decision at a special meeting held virtually that was announced at the end of day on June 30 and held July 2 at 9 a.m.

Travis Wilson, director of public works, asked council to reconsider a request made at a June 11 committee of the whole meeting, in which Wilson recommended a digital payment system be implemented at Ingoldsby and Scotch Line landfill sites so that materials subject to fees could be taken there, and cash not accepted at any site for the remainder of 2020. A motion on Wilson's recommendation was defeated by council, but at a June 25 meeting, they agreed to reconsider the report. "This report proposes the use of the same technology for digital payment but amends the recommendation to cease the practice of handling cash," said Wilson in his report to council on July 2.

"In reviewing COVID-19 cash handling best practices, it was determined that accepting exact change only would reduce the amount of cash handling required by staff to the point where they could maintain acceptable levels of hand hygiene. It would

also prevent money that has been exposed to disease from being redistributed to another member of the community. Staff recommend that cash be accepted only in exact amounts owed at all sites until October 31, 2020."

Wilson thought it would be possible to get the equipment needed for digital payment within about three weeks, but thought it would be possible to arrange for exact change payment sooner, so that site operations could resume.

"And is that going to be immediate, because I am going to be lynched if something doesn't get moving right away," said Councillor Jean Neville. "There's going to be a line-up back to [Hwy] 35 with just the people I know that have been after me about this construction waste. I mean, I've had people that have taken pick-up trucks there twice and had to go home and unload them because they've been turned away. There's people that have drywall that's disintegrating into their yards that they're trying to get rid of, and dump trailers that are full to overflowing."

Neville said the acceptance of materials had to start "today."

"I have people constantly, every day, after me about this," she said. "I'm losing sleep over it. So we can't wait any longer. This isn't anything new and the other municipalities are doing it. It's got to be implemented,

Neville said she had heard other municipality's were offering the service.

"In terms of accepting cash amounts, that isn't something that has happened anywhere else, staff has had that conversation with the other municipalities," said Travis Wilson. "In terms of getting things started, yeah, staff would have liked to have this going two weeks ago, however, we're back at this today.'

He told council that in Highlands East, residents were being invoiced individually, sending out invoices to those who came in with items that required a fee, which created a "fairly high amount of administrative workload." Algonquin Highlands, he said, had recently moved to the digital payment system and were not accepting anything other than a charge account prior to that. Dysart et al already had digital payment in place at the Haliburton site, and had implemented it at other sites. Tara Stephen, manager of waste facilities, said staff would require a few days to get prepared.

"We need to restock cash boxes and ensure we've got enough hand sanitizer and gloves at the sites, to make sure the staff are protected against disease," she said. "My assumption will be that we could have this in place

partments that might take cash, now that municipal offices are reopening, and asked CAO Lorrie Blanchard if the plan to receive cash at the landfill was one that might be consistent across the board.

Blanchard said if the reason to collect exact change only was for health and safety reasons, "it probably needs to be a consideration across the entire organization."

She said she had looked into different potential situations and conflicts regarding collecting an exact amount of change, for example, if someone only had a \$20 bill to pay for a \$2 charge and said she had contacted a legal resource for advice.

Councillor Bob Carter said he didn't want to confound what was being done in finance and other administrative areas with the issue, in order to get the landfill situation back on track before the weekend.

"I too am getting calls on this, and I don't want to see stuff dumped on the side of the road," he said. "I think as long as you put it out there on the internet, and however you're going to advertise it, that you need correct change, then so be it. If somebody wants to ... cause us a difficulty afterwards, fine. I don't think we really need a legal opinion or anything, we just do it, and get this going. The decision we make today is not necessarily going to be the decision we have six weeks from now. We're going to see what the issues are and refine it as we go, so let's just be logical about this and get it going.'

Schell agreed sharing the information online and in local media was necessary for residents to be prepared.

'If all the information's there, people can go to the website, they can see what it's going to cost to take the fridge or whatever the item might be and then there shouldn't even need to be change," she said.

Councillor Pam Sayne, who had also been receiving calls from constituents, agreed that it was important to get the operations up and running as early as possible, and also to ensure proper staffing was in place to get traffic through, "because it's not going to be quite as business as usual. It is going to be a backlog so the easier we can make that for people coming through, the better. I'm glad we can get this going because of all the other implications of people holding on to this in their own yards, or on the side of the road."

Devolin said he had also been receiving calls regarding the landfill situation, for

Wilson said it was very likely the landfill could be prepared to open to the material for

"For council's consideration, you have staff's word we'll get this going as soon as possible," he said. "We're getting phone calls too. Like I said, we would have liked to have this going three weeks ago."

A press release issued after the meeting at the end of that day noted waste site operations would resume the next day, on July 3.

"Please remember this is not a permanent solution, but an interim measure to keep the community and staff protected," read the

A note also thanked the patience of the public "through what has been a challenging start to the summer season," noting the municipality looked forward to working toward resuming normal operations.





### Regular rainfall needed to boost lake and river levels

by JENN WATT Editor

Water levels on some of the area's reservoir lakes may drop as much as 25 centimetres during the Trent Severn Waterway drawdown, conducted over a two-week period, which started last week.

According to Parks Canada's June 30 water management update, lakes in the Haliburton area, which feed into the TSW, were at or below long-term average levels with Gull River reservoirs at 92 per cent full, Burnt River reservoirs at 91 per cent full, and central reservoirs at 94 per cent full.

Ted Spence, chair of the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow, said the drawdown is a usual occurrence for this time of year, but normally the region would have received far

"What's not normal is that it has been so dry and there's not very much water coming into the system. Normally, they would be drawing water from the system ... but there'd also be quite a bit coming in from rain, from normal rainfall, and runoff from rivers and streams into the lakes," he said in an interview on July 3.

On July 7, the fire chiefs of Haliburton County issued a fire ban due to consistently dry conditions.

Rainfall for the region has been between 25 and 50 per cent below normal for May and

Otonabee River in Peterborough has already been reduced to its minimum.

"If you go down to the Kawartha Lakes, there's very little water moving from lake to lake. They've got the flow as low as they can get it and still maintain the water supply and the water quality minimums for the Peterborough area," he said.

According to an update from CEWF, in addition to the dry conditions in May and June, the snowpack melted early for the reservoir

"This spring the snowpack was normal in March but it melted very early with peak flows in late March and early April. In order to protect against the risk of flooding from extreme spring rainfall events like have occurred in several recent years, the TSW water management team adopted the strategy of only filling reservoirs to 90 per cent of full and then allowing levels to come up with spring rainfall. Because of the dry spring many reservoirs did not get to their full levels or close to full until mid or late June," the update reads.

The dry conditions are something to keep in mind, Spence said, but they should not be creating major issues for waterfront property owners yet.

"Nobody's anywhere near having a problem with a waterline or anything like that,"

Spence pointed out that the flow on the weather projected in climate change models: extreme events and more variability (floods and droughts), he said.

"The other notable thing right now is that the dry conditions extend all the way from Haliburton to Lake Ontario, so the Trent Severn water managers aren't dealing with a situation where they don't have a problem down in the south. They have limited water

The region is experiencing the type of supply over the whole system and the rain is not replenishing the lakes," Spence said. "The other thing that happens of course is on the big lakes as the water gets warmer with these long days and all this sunshine, is an awful lot of evaporation. That's especially true on the big lakes."

> Updates from CEWF on TSW water management can be found at https://cewf.typepad.com/coalition\_for\_equitable\_w/.

### Blue jays develop taste for address signs

by CHAD INGRAM Times Staff

Blue jays have been wreaking havoc on blue and white 911 residential address signs throughout the county, with hundreds of signs damaged as the jays peel their covering away.

The county experienced a similar issue in summer of 2014, with the birds causing widespread damage to address signs. "We were hoping it was a one-time issue," Haliburton County public works director Craig Douglas told county councillors during a meeting in late June.

"We're thinking maybe 300 or 400 signs have been impacted, and maybe more," Douglas said. "I think the most efficient thing for staff to do is to replace them in bulk, including the little plastic cover that goes on, so this never happens again."

Previously, the county had attempted to get residents to pay for their replacement signs, at a cost of \$7 per unit at the time, and Douglas told council a lot of staff time was spent trying to collect a small amount of money from residents. "In the past we were out, back and forth a lot, trying to collect \$7 from the property owners," he said, "we found that we were tracking back, sending letters back and forth, all over the county, trying to install these things.'

Douglas told council the cost per sign with plastic cover would cost the county approximately \$15 per unit. "I think it's a health and safety issue, and we want to get on it right away," he said.

"That's an awful lot of administration to chase everybody for \$7," said Warden Liz

### Sudoku brought to you by

### LISA MERCER **BROKER**

Don't keep me a secret.

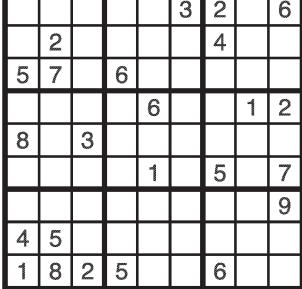


PROFESSI<sup>O</sup>NALS NORTH

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#### **Fun By The Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

#### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 1



www.mindentimes.ca

### HHSS students' efforts earn charities \$5,000

Times Staff

During the uncertainty of the times, Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students brought some added financial security with a \$5,000 grant to two local charities through the Youth Philanthropic Initiative where student groups select a local charity to research and then educate their peers with presentations, which are then judged based on the execution of their work, promoting the non-profit organization.

Although the second semester's disruption did not allow for a second set of student presentations to be eligible for a year-end presentation, YPI decided to divide the \$5,000 into three shares, to be distributed to the top three groups from the

Two of the three groups chose Walkabout Farm Therapeutic Riding Association, awarding \$3,333 for the Minden based charity that offers people of all ages with "therapeutic riding, youth outreach and horsemanship programs for children and adults with unique considerations, mental health concerns and those who are abled differently," and the third group used their \$1,667 for the Heat Bank Haliburton County, which provides assistance to residents in need of heating security.

Student Jocelyn Chumbley, who worked with Emily Alexander, Cassidy McMullen and Logan Malette, said it was "exhilarating" to give Walkabout Farms funds to do their important work.

"My team and myself worked very hard to demonstrate to our classmates the good that Walkabout Farms does in our community. We had the pleasure to meet its founder Jennifer Semach, and she was very kind to let us come and see the facilities. It costs a lot to keep these horses healthy and she's been working with keeping the facility going out of her pocket (with generous donors helping might I add)," she wrote in an email. "Many of the horses are rescued from slaughter houses and given a new life helping at risk and disabled kids. The therapy has helped many kids be more comfortable and happy in everyday life. This money will help keep them going, and even expand to help more people! It's such a good cause and we're excited to help keep them in business, working with our community and making it a better place!" Jocelyn said getting to tour the facility, led by founder Jennifer Semach, helped their presentation be far more affecting.

Teacher Jessica Lloyd agreed, noting the students' compassion stood out.

"They really showed interest in the organization. They commented on how taking the tour with Jennifer and learning more about the services they provide made them want to spend time volunteering there. At the end of the day that is what the purpose of this project is. Getting to know the needs of your community and how you can play a part in being a contributing member," Lloyd wrote in an email.

Teacher Catherine Andress, who taught the other student group comprised of Courtney Semach, Nikita Watson, Bella



a hug in this file photo taken two years ago at Walkabout Farm Therapeutic Riding Association facility in Minden Hills. The farm received YPI funding thanks to presentations made by two groups of high school students, bringing in \$3,333 for the non-profit. /FILE photo Darren Lum

Jasper the horse gets

Smolen, Gracyn Whitehead and Emma Tidey, wrote in an email her students "produced a really strong presentation."

Courtney, daughter of Jennifer Semach, was the "emotional horsepower in the group. The others brought their considerable organizational and speaking skills to the presentation. They conveyed how Walkabout wasn't just a fun place to hang out with horses, but how it plays an important therapeutic role. It almost made me want to take up riding, which, given my level of coordination, would be disastrous.

Teacher Paul Longo, who has been the contact for YPI over the years, said the idea to award the grant to more than one group came from the possibility there wouldn't be a second semester of in-school classes to allow for group presentations.

"They were the ones who suggested some of the ideas of breaking the \$5,000 in portions and that way it honours some of the kids that would have gone on to present in June," he

He said the three student groups were chosen from a field of students from three first semester classes, totalling nearly 15 groups. Other charities represented by student groups include SIRCH and Cottage Dreams.

In previous years, there would be one group per class that would advance and present at a year-end event, competing for the \$5,000 grant.

The YPI grant motivates high school students across the continent to learn about local charities, discover their importance within the community and empowers them to advocate for the charity.

The Heat Bank was chosen by the third group of Brooke Stover, Ava Smith and Hunter Winder.

Brooke said her group believed the Heat Bank was a worthwhile recipient because of the need it fulfills in helping residents stay warm during the cooler months of the year.

"To earn money for the Heat Bank it means a lot to us because of two reasons. One we want to help the Heat Bank and our community and two it feels amazing to be able to help those in need. We think that the whole thing just really shows how easy it is to support our community," she wrote

"In our presentation we started talking about who the Heat Bank is and what they do for our community. Then we talked about what they would do with the grant and examples of what they have done in the past," she wrote in an email. "At the end to try and prove even further why the Heat Bank should be awarded the grant, we decided to include scenarios of what it's like for people in their everyday life that do not have heat. For example, we first told a scenario of a child with access to heat getting ready for school and then we told the same scenario but with a child that doesn't have access to heat. We did this because a lot of our classmates have no idea what it's like to not have access to heat, so by telling these scenarios we were able to open their minds to what some people in our community go through every single day.

The Heat Bank's co-ordinator Tina Jackson said she was surprised by the donation, which is the second consecutive year the non-profit was a recipient.

"It really is a testament to local youth who are informing themselves on local issues. Both of the winners this year (Heat Bank and Walkabout Farms) are not just non-profits operating in Haliburton County but non-profits that were grown right here in Haliburton County to address needs in our community. It really is a special honour to be recognized by local youth for the work we are doing!" she said.



#### **An old fashioned Canada Day**

Minden's Harv Helliwell prepares to drive his 1931 Model A Ford adorned with Canada flags to town on July 1. The regular festivities were cancelled in town as a precaution due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, Helliwell said he was hoping he might see other car enthusiasts once he got to town. /DARREN **LUM Staff** 



The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking sealed bids from qualified, experienced trades to renovate the Stanhope Library as per the design, to achieve accessibility to the building entrance, basement and upper floor.

Closing date: July 28, 2020 at 2:00pm Tender and submission documents can be found at  $\underline{www.algonquinhighlands.ca}$ 

For further information contact: Adam Thorn, Operations Manager Township of Algonquin Highlands 705-489-2379

### Ready, set, fundraise!

Highland Yard organizing committee members from left, Jane Boyd, Susan Russel and Jack Russel are ready to start fundraising for this year's virtual Highland Yard. The fundraiser brings in money for Places for People, which provides safe, affordable housing for members of the community at risk of homelessness. This year, the run can be done anywhere. Deadline to register is Aug. 2 at 11 a.m. Submission deadline for results is Aug. 2 at 11:59 p.m. Email info@ highlandyard.ca for more details. / **DARREN LUM Staff** 



### Travel back in time with The Great Historic Bake Off

by DARREN LUM

Times Staff

Connect with history, have fun and win prizes with Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Heritage Village's Great Historic Bake Off.

The bake off includes a weekly video baking lesson set in the kitchen of the Bowron House posted online featuring recipes from the past; a home-baking photo contest, past or present; and access to an online community cookbook where the public is encouraged to add recipes or learn about recipes from historic cookbooks in the museum collection as well as from local businesses.

Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Heritage Village's curatorial programming assistant Shannon Quigley said she was inspired to have a bake off because of how much she enjoys *The Great British Bake Off*.

"I'm a big fan of the TV series *The Great British Bake Off* and especially love it when they delve into the history of a recipe. I thought it would be fun to do something similar here at the museum, using recipes from our collection of historic cookbooks," she wrote in an email.

Taking the baking to the virtual realm was part of the new way of doing things during the pandemic, which allows the continuation of the museum's cooking demonstrations.

"Our historic cooking demonstrations in Bowron House kitchen are a real highlight at the museum each summer. We knew that we would have to do things differently this year, and I wanted to recreate those demos online and give people a chance to participate by sending in photos of their home bakes and submitting recipes to an online cookbook," Quigley said.

A different theme is explored each week during the virtual baking lessons, starting with pies, cookies, bread and then cake. Each recipe is selected from a historic Canadian source. Quigley said most of the recipes come from cookbooks housed at the museum. All the recipes are available on the museum's blog.

The first in the online video series is a potato pudding pie baking video. It was a recipe from the *The Dominion Home Cook* published in 1868.

The next video will feature strawberry shortbread cookies, which is made from a recipe taken from a promotional cookbook

published by the Magic Baking Powder company in the 1930s. This will be followed by recipe for potato bread from *The Home Cook Book* and the series ends with a birthday cake from 1894, which is also from *The Home Cook Book*. Videos are posted Mondays.

The benefit of an online community cookbook (mindenhillsculturalcentre.blog/community-cookbook) is that it maintains a connection to the past.

"Food is a wonderful storyteller and reviving a historic recipe is like stepping back in time," Quigley said. "This online cookbook is a place for us to document recipes we try out in our historic cooking demos. We also want this online community cookbook to be a space where people share recipes – both old and new! Do you have a recipe that holds special meaning? Please share!"

Recipes can be emailed to Quigley. She asks people to include a photo and note about what makes the recipe special. She suggests the photo can be a snapshot from the kitchen, a photo of the person the recipe is associated with, or the dish.

Quigley will be reading through historic recipes and discussing the next topic of interest with Cathy McIlmurray during her After Nine show on Canoe FM close to 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays in July.

The cookbook will also serve to document historic recipes from the museum's collection and keep track of the recipes used by the museum in the historic cooking demonstrations.

"Even when we reopen and can start doing cooking demonstrations in person, it's nice to be able to share what we're up to online," she said

The hope is to continue the bake off next year.

"I would love to run the Great Historic Bake Off at the museum again next summer, when we can do live cooking demos and baking competitions held under a big white tent on the grounds. In the meantime, we hope people will take part in our online activities and enjoy learning about historic recipes at home," she wrote.

There's still time to submit your photo related to the themes of the week to be eligible for the first of four \$25 gift certificates from Molly's Bistro Bakery. The deadline for the pie photos is Friday, July 10 and the winner will be announced Saturday, July 11. Other deadlines are July 17 for the cookie photos,



July 24 for the bread photos and July 31 for the cake photos. Winners are selected in a random draw. The Great Historic Bake Off is offering people a chance to learn about historical recipes and enter photos of dishes for a chance at a \$25 gift certificate at Molly's Bistro Bakery in Minden. See mindenhillsculturalcentre. blog/the-great-historic-bake-off/ for more information and details. /Submitted by Shannon Quigley

Details on how to submit photos can be found at mindenhillsculturalcentre.blog/the-great-historic-bake-off.

### New funding to enhance virtual mental health services

by JENN WATT

Editor

Funding provided to Haliburton Highlands Health Services through the Emergency Community Support Fund will improve access to mental health services for vulnerable members of the community, HHHS CEO Carolyn Plummer said in a letter to the community.

"This funding will be used by HHHS and community partners to enhance access to virtual mental health services for vulnerable members of our community," Plummer wrote in the letter dated July 3.

Three community organizations have received the federal funding in the latest round, dispersed by the United Way City of Kawartha Lakes: Point in Time, HHHS, and SIRCH

Point in Time received \$20,000 for the youth hub; SIRCH received \$15,000 for Community Kitchen; and HHHS received nearly \$20,000 for its virtual mental health support.

Plummer had been issuing letters to the community weekly when preparation for the COVID-19 pandemic was first happening in Haliburton County. In recent weeks, she has reduced the frequency of letters to biweekly.

On July 3, she focused on mental health, telling community members that it is "natural to experience periods of stress, anxiety, fear, sadness, frustration, helplessness, isolation, difficulty sleeping or [concentrating], or physical symptoms such as increased heart rate, upset stomach or low energy."

The website haliburtoncares.ca includes a list of local service providers that can help with mental health, including counselling and treatment. You can also call the Community Support Services response team, which is a service of HHHS, at 705-457-2941 or text 705-457-0016 from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can also email infocc@hhhs.ca.

Online mental health supports include wellnesstogether.ca and bigwhitewall.ca.

Health-care workers can access resources at camh.ca/covid19HCW as well as from Ontario Shores at ontarioshores.ca/hcwassist.



### **Patriotic pup**

Little Wiggles (12 weeks old) celebrated Canada Day at Winterdance Dogsled Tours in Dysart et al last week. /Photo submitted



### Rare bird

Caleb McElwain saw this white grackle at his grandparents' in Gelert. /Photo submitted

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Morning fog on Beech Lake. /Photo by Tammy Nash



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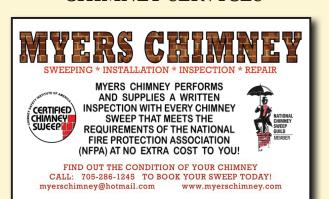




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### Ankle dorsiflexion

THE MOVEMENT of drawing your toes back to your shin is called ankle dorsiflexion. Sadly, this is an area of the body that tends to be overlooked. We don't seem to hear about someone having "limited dorsiflexion." We do hear about ankle, knee, hip and low back injuries that are directed related to this type of restricted ankle movement.

The biggest cause of restriction in ankle dorsiflexion is wearing shoes with any kind of a heel. Picture standing on a flat surface in shoes from a side view. What we are doing is sliding a wedge underneath our feet that keeps an angle in the ankle for hours at a time. The higher the heel the bigger the angle. Without counteracting that position the body forms tissue to keep us comfortable in that position because that's what the body does. Sitting around barefoot will not undo the damage done.

Practical Fitness Ankle dorsiflexion is important when it comes to walking. A lack of dorsiflexion can result in an altered walking pattern. When walking, we need our lower leg to be able to move over our foot so we can progress forward. Without this ankle motion we are forced to take smaller steps and eventually we shuffle instead of stepping. This change increases the risk of falls. As does not being able to lift the toes out of the way when climbing stairs. Such little body movement can cause big problems if it isn't

**LAURIE SWEIG** 

There are various ways to either get some dorsiflexion back or maintain what you have. Here are some ideas:

• The squat is one of my favourites. If your range of motion is limited, squat down as low as you can pushing your knees (keep heels on the floor) forward a little each time you

attempt this movement. Again, do not push too

hard or far. It should not hurt.

• A variation on this is to put all of your weight on your right foot (using your left for balance). Keeping your right foot flat on the floor push your knee forward over your toes. Hold for a bit, and then repeat on the left side.

• One other variation is to kneel on your left knee with your right foot flat on the floor and push the right knee forward over the toes. Hold for a bit, and then repeat on the left side.

Essentially any movement (that is safe) that gets your knees going over your toes will help increase dorsiflexion. If you're a measurement

type of person there's any easy way to track your progress. You need a wall and a measuring tape. Here's what you do:

- Stand facing the wall.
- Put all your weight on your right foot and use your left foot for balance.
- Push your knee forward over your toes with the goal of having your knee touch the wall.

- Move the right foot forward and back until your knee touches the wall without lifting your heel at all.
- Measure the distance between the tip of your right big toe and the wall.
- Do all of that for the left foot.
- Record your findings.

Plan to measure again after doing the exercises for a week

Whether or not you choose to track your progress it's important that you pay attention to that little movement called dorsiflexion.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.





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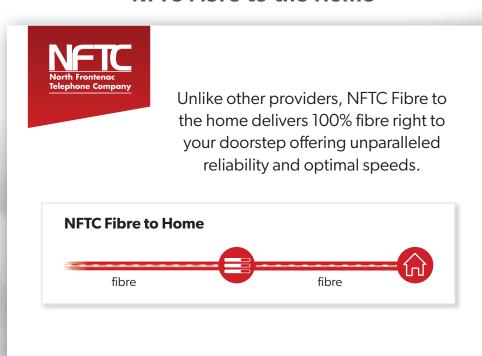
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Submit an application and a detailed resume before 5:00 pm on July 17, 2020 to:

> Kimberley Robinson Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team Box 459, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 admin@hhfht.com Fax: 705-457-3955

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*In Loving Memory of* 

### HELEN BERNICE OWENS

August 3, 1926 – July 6, 2020

Passed away peacefully in the home where she was born. Loving daughter of the late Irene (Ferren) and Harvie Gardiner. Cherished wife of the late Arthur Owens (m. August 6, 1966). Predeceased by her brother Ken and uncle Garnet Gardiner. Surrogate mother to the children of Harry and Isobel Austin: Jeffrey, Steven (Sheree), Jennifer and Charles. Surrogate grandmother to Joel, Riley and Brady. Upon her marriage to Art

she became a stepmother to Gloria, Ivy, Jimmy and John. Step-grandmother to Troy (Heather), Mark (Tara), Darlajean (Kingsley), Lee (Nickee). Step-great grandmother to Matthew, Isabella, Lukas, Trey, Justin, Tyrese, Avree and Owen. Dear first cousin of Duane Scarlett and Diana Byrne (Scarlett) and cousin Max Cain. Affectionately remembered by the family of Robb Douglass and Violet (Swinson). Loved by many others of her large extended family, neighbours and friends.

Bernice was a life-long involved member of St. James Anglican church Kinmount. Bernice was a prominent citizen of Kinmount being the Kinmount Citizen of the Year in 2011 and involved in many groups such as a lifetime member of the RCL John McGrath Branch 441 and a member of the Ladies Auxiliary, the Kinmount Committee for Planning and Economic Development and a member of the Friends of Galway.

would like to thank the St. Elizabeth palliative care RN's and PSWs for their compassionate and professional care as well as Dr, Elena Mihu and the staff of the Kinmount Pharmacy.

A private graveside service will be held at the Kinmount cemetery on Friday, July 10 at 11:00 AM. Attendees are required to wear masks and to register by calling Jim and Peggy Vidoczy at 705-488-2307 or 705-455-7752 before entering the cemetery grounds. A memorial service is planned to be held at St. James Anglican Church (Kinmount) in September, 2020.

Memorial Donations to the St. James Anglican Church would be appreciated and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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In Loving Memory of

### **Craig Saunders**

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Godfrey Craig Saunders on July 1, 2020 in his 57th year.

Best friend and husband of Melissa Stephens, loving son of Marie and Godfrey (deceased) Saunders and dear brother of Sean (Helen) and Lori (Jason Martin). Lovingly

remembered by his sister-in- law Janie Ward Sampson, nieces and nephews Emily, Patrick, Hannah, Emma, Jacob and Todd. Also, he is fondly remembered by many aunts, uncles and cousins. Craig will be remembered for his love of music, art, theatre and of course sports. He was an avid reader and enjoyed the occasional "discussion" about politics.

Special thanks to Dr. Michael Armstrong and the staff of the Haliburton Family Medical Clinic, the Peterborough Regional Health Centre and Toronto Western Hospital. You have all played a special role in Craig's care over the last 15 years.

A Celebration of Craig's Life and reception will be held when we can all gather together again.

As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation

(on-line only) or to the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Craig Saunders Memorial Bursary and can be done through e-transfer at hhssscholarship@gmail.com or by cheque mailed to the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0. www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



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**VOLUME III, No. 35** 

Wednesday, June 24, 1981

### Chamber presents revised budget to county council

The promotion and administration of Haliburton County is a serious business and to prove it, the Chamber of Commerce presented its revised budget, close to \$100,000, to County Council last Wednesday.

Curtis Eastmure, the Chamber's finance chairman, Chamber's linance chairman, in explaining the budget said, "We understand, that our budget proposal of last year could not be accepted as presented, by council, since you simply didn't have that kind of money available, and in addition we have been told in addition, we have been told we simply did not present our case well enough."

He pointed out the Chamber had reached its goal of \$20,000 in membership fees, an increase of 75% over

last year.

A "marketing study" has been given \$3000. Eastmure said the study, "is intended to provide some funds to acquire professional assistance to help us in taking a more educated approach to our future marketing programs."

He added that, "it is felt by the Board that the sophisti-cated market we now find ourselves in requires some type of expertise beyond what

we have among us."
In addition to the budget presentation, Stinson intro-duced the members of the Chamber's Board of Directors to council in an effort to, "get to know some of the volunteers that are behind that term, "Board of Directors," and so they can get to know council."

Also arranged was a short talk by Bruce Potter, from the Ministry of Industry and Tourism who is responsible

for Haliburton County.

Potter's remarks centred around the booming tourism industry and how Haliburton County fits into the scheme.

tourism will be the number one industry within the next five years and that it already generates seven and a half billion dollars in Ontario.

Stinson, in his concluding remarks at the meeting, summed up the Chamber's goals, "There is a tremendous amount of planning and thought by the Board put forth before decisions are made, and the trend will be to research our decisions even more in the future."

#### Lutterworth council

But Stinson had more work to do last week when he addressed Lutterworth Council Thursday evening.
The Chamber had sent

in monetary contributions, if possible, to aid Chamber activities.

Lutterworth Reeve, Ron Gambell, the County's representative on the Stilled.

He stated firmly that Chamber Board, readily burism will be the number agreed to have Stinson attend a meeting to outline the various Chamber activities.

Stinson pointed out that the local organization is the only county-wide Chamber in

Ontario.
"We have a great advantage "We have a great advantage-here when you look at other areas. You don't have to choose among several associations to support, we're it in this area."

Stinson also mentioned the

zone study being done by consultants which will, for instance, tell people from Holiday Inn where the best place would be for a hotel in

the County.
Stinson said right now the



While the grade eight and high school students were receiving diplomas in graduating ceremonies, the kindergarten classes at Archie Stouffer Elementary School were also marking the end of their school year. Faith Bowman is obviously pleased with the certificate she received from principal Mr. Stuart Baker. Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Bonnie Fitzgerald, assisted with

### Students honoured at HHSS ceremony

Flash bulbs popped, graduates smiled and parents beamed with pride Sunday evening as ceremonies marking the end of the school year were held in the HHSS auditorium.

The hall was filled to capacity as parents, relatives, friends and teachers gathered to honour the grade 12 and 13 graduates, many of whom will be leaving Haliburton Highlands Secondary School to continue their education elsewhere or join

the work force.

Garbed in red and white gowns, the graduates were led into the auditorium by the Highlands piper, Earl Cooper. Following the presentation of diplomas at both grade levels, the gathering was addressed by the valedictorians. Suzanne Penney spoke on behalf of the grade 12 graduates while Michael Wright was the grade 13 valedictorian.

A reception followed the ceremony.

A list of the graduates and photographs of the evening can

be found on pages 9 and 10.

Photographs and details of the ceremonies at Archie Stouffer Elementary School can be found on pages 7 & 8.



ront row centre. Others on the executive include, from the left, front row, Jack MacGregor, treasurer, first vice president Al Mayo, Cox, second vice president Dave Atkinson, and secretary Paul Sisson. In the back row, Clayton Hummell and Peter Sennett directors, Stu Brandon past president and Tom Thompson sergeant at arms.

He pointed out that it would not be necessary to approve all of the suggestions but all would be discussed. The Minden Rotary Club installed a new executive Monday evening. Heading the club for the coming year will be Ray Cox, front row centre. Others on the executive include, from the left, front row, Jack MacGregor, treasurer, first vice president Al Mayo, Cox, second vice president Dave Atkinson, and secretary Paul Sisson. In the back row, Clayton Hummell and Peter Bennett directors, Stu Brandon past president and Tom Thompson sergeant at arms.

### Committee to study provisional status

County Council has passed a resolution that will give the go-ahead to an investigation of Haliburton County's

"provisional" status.

Dysart et al reeve and
County Warden, Murray
Fearrey and members of the
budget committee will meet County Warden, Murray
Fearrey and members of the
budget committee will meet
with a representative from the
Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs to discuss the
County's status, the financial
implications of altering the
status and alternative forms status and alternative forms

scope of municipal govern-ment, the advantages and disadvantages for our area,"

said Fearrey.

He said they might also look at amalgamating some of the municipalities.

we can't make a decision without a financial analysis."

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- Private 3.9 acre building lot with 555' of water
- frontage Incredible point lot with level building area, big
- Driveway already installed



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Located in a premium no maintenance Lifestyle







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